

East Boldon Infant School

Newsletter



March 2019

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, the lighter mornings and evenings are upon us...Spring is definitely on its way! We have had a few lovely sunny days and it has been great for the children to get outside (minus the hats, scarves, gloves...) But the temperature is still variable. It does make everyone feel happier when the sun is shining! Definitely a difference from last year!

Thank you for all the attendance at the parent workshops. It was lovely to see so many parents and family members join us for a session of sharing learning with the children. Feedback was extremely positive and this is something we will continue with, alongside our more teacher led information evenings. We think the balance of both works well, to give you the chance to hear about the curriculum, but the chance to see it in practice with your child. All comments were gratefully received and we have taken all suggestions on board.

Parent's Evenings are taking place over the next two weeks and I look forward to seeing many parents in attendance. You will receive a short target slip to take away with you, with some small areas for your child to develop and work on in the key areas. We hope you find these useful to know where your child is working at and how they can improve.

I will soon be sending out our annual parent questionnaire, via Google Drive as well as on paper. Please only complete the questionnaire once, in the way you feel most comfortable! We really do value your responses. Myself and all of the staff value the school highly and want to continue to make it the best possible, so all responses both positive and constructive will be greatly appreciated. We will also send out a child questionnaire too. I appreciate they may need yourselves to spend a little time with them to complete this, we have amended a few questions slightly to help make it as easy as possible for the children. Again, although I speak regularly with the children and the School Council, it is very useful to the whole staff to find out the children's opinions on certain parts of school life!

We are all looking forward to World Book Day Celebrations in school. We have secured a fantastic poet Ian Bland who is going to work with us in school all day on Monday 18th March. Although this is a little later than the National date, we thought it would be nice to celebrate with Ian on this day. Mrs Verity has worked with Ian in the past so we can't wait for a fun-filled day celebrating all things books—so important for our young children! See quote of the month!

Final organisation and planning is taking place for development of the Reception Garden area. Some work may need to start across this half term, to allow for the surface to be replaced across the Easter break. Mr Orr is working with the staff and children to also develop a sensory area within the garden too. We are very excited to see the transformation take place over the coming months!

We will be asking for Milk Money for the Summer Term to be handed into school before the Easter break. This will allow final numbers to be given to the dairy in plenty time so all children can be allocated their milk straight after the Easter break.

We have also begun to look into different cashless systems to help with payment of milk/clubs/uniform in school and will keep you updated on any developments.

Thank you for your continued support. As always don't hesitate to get in touch or speak with your child's class teacher if we can be of any assistance.

Best Wishes,
Miss Holt

Parent Governor Update..... We recently sent out to ask for any nominations for a parent governor vacancy we currently have in school. Unfortunately this position has not yet been filled. If any parent is interested, but is maybe unsure of what the position means, please pop in to see myself and I would be more than happy to talk through the role a little more. Many Thanks.



A few Diary Dates coming up...

- w/b 4th March and w/b 11th March—Parents' Evenings in school
- Friday 15th March—Red Nose Day—all fun accessories welcome!
- Monday 18th March—World Book Day in school with Ian Bland (*see letter already sent for more details*)
- Friday 22nd March—Non Uniform Day in school for PTA—details to follow
- Wednesday 27th March 5pm—Phonics Screening Information Evening for Y1 Parents
- Monday 1st April—Easter Assembly at St George's Church 2.15pm—Details to follow

Please note all dates are also on our calendar on the school website—please keep checking!

Friday 5th April—Break up for Easter Holidays! Chocolate Alert!

School returns on Tuesday 23rd April.

Have a lovely Easter Break!

Miss Holt loves a quote!

"Reading can take you places you have never been before!"

Dr Seuss



Kidsafe

As most parents will know we are a registered Kidsafe school and have been for the past few years. This is a nationally recognised scheme and our tutor in school is currently Miss Rutherford. She will be beginning to deliver recap sessions with our Year 1's over the coming weeks. Our youngest children in Reception will be given their sessions in the Summer Term along with the Year 2 recap sessions.

Each session your child will be given a letter to bring home about what has been discussed in the session. These sessions are incredibly important discussing the importance of keeping safe in a variety of situations and empowers our children to keep themselves safe too.

A parents meeting to inform our Reception Parents about the programme will be held on **THURSDAY 25TH APRIL at 5pm.**

Please pop along if you can, it will last approximately half an hour.

Thank you.—More details will be given soon to parents.



Fitness in School

In school we place a high importance on keeping our children as physically active as possible. As well as PE we invite specialists into school to work with our staff to deliver high quality coaching in skills such as gymnastics, tennis, dance.

We have fun time lunchtimes with lunchtime clubs running for each class across the year...KS1 have also begun the Daily Mile! Mrs Sangray our PE co-ordinator also plans a Health and Fitness week each year in June. Keep looking at our website for further updates.

ECO WARRIORS!!



Well...our efforts to be all together greener are certainly working. Our paper bin is now being emptied weekly and classes are being very proactive in recycling their paper in class. We had an assembly to show us how we can recycle plastic forming eco bricks that we are going to use to make something wonderful in our school yard! We welcome your help with this too as the more bricks we can gather in the bigger our project can be!

Highlights...

Year 2 have visited the Oriental Museum as part of their ongoing work on China. They also visited the Safety Works Programme in Newcastle, allowing them to find out about how to be safe around train lines, in the home and around animals. Class 3 will be attending on 15/3/19 following our snowy/icy day!

The RNLI came into school to work with KS1 about staying safe around water—so important to us living on the coast. The children were great and listened carefully to the messages.

Time to Talk day was a lovely day with lots of talking and sharing about what we like about each other.



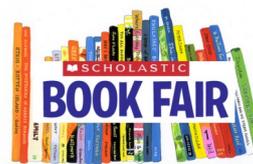
Safer Internet Day was very productive...I even managed to chat with children about how they stay safe and I was super impressed with the children's responses—they know if they see anything online that makes them feel sad, scared or worried to tell their teacher/parents or trusted grown up.



Lori from the Local Authority has worked with Reception and Year 1 about key road safety messages. Using props such as a mobile pelican crossing the children took part in role-play sessions to know how to stay safe as a road user.

Book Fair!

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in school from Monday 29th April until Thursday 2nd May It will be available to view and buy some lovely books everyday in the school hall from 3.30-4.00pm It is a great opportunity for school as we receive a percentage of books bought, which allows us to add to the selection of books we have in our classrooms! It will be lovely to see you there!



Parent Teacher Association
The annual Spring Fair Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday March 30th at East Boldon Junior School.

There will be plenty of stalls/tombolas and refreshments so pop along and join in the fun!

Donations can be sent into school for the Tombola on the non-uniform day Friday 22nd March.

